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EAL Bright Idea of the Week

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications



While most Cabinet staff have completed the Everyone a Leader skill-building sessions, we could all use small reminders of the lessons we studied. The "EAL Bright Idea of the Week" features tips that can help us improve our relationships with coworkers and our service to families.

We're working effectively with several more people now because of Comprehensive Family Services. With these newer partners, or even with our natural teams, communicating how we really feel can be difficult if we disagree.

When appropriate, you can share your true feelings – your left-hand column – without creating a divisive atmosphere. Focus your comments in a way that conveys what you feel without being threatening. If you're hesitant to speak, tell the group you have an idea that is "out of the box" or that they may not like. This would prepare the group to not be surprised by your response.



Remember to recycle printer cartridges!

Please remember to return your used LexMark printer cartridges to LexMark for recycling, using the mailing label you'll find in the box containing the new cartridge.

OTS employee feels luck of the Irish

By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

Office of Technology Services staff who work with Michael Henson were definitely seeing green on St. Patrick's Day.

It's a day that always makes Henson feel lucky.

Henson, whom many remember for his awardwinning Halloween costumes of the outhouse and baked



potato, has a long-standing tradition of wearing all green on St. Patty's Day. This includes dying his hair and beard the emerald color.

"I'm not Irish, but I am for one day," Henson said.

Henson even sported a musical shamrock tie that played "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling."

His younger son, David, also got into the spirit by sporting green hair to elementary school. And his older son, Daniel, celebrates his 14th birthday on St. Patrick's Day.

The day his son was born was the rare St. Patrick's Day Henson didn't color his hair.

"I was afraid they might not let me in the hospital," he said.



Judges Cathy Mobley, Jeanne Baldwin and Tim Jackson sample chili at the March of Dimes cookoff Tuesday. The fund-raiser netted more than \$300 for the charity.

March of Dimes chili cookoff a spicy success

By Anya Armes Weber and Natalie Ciresi, CFC Communications

The March of Dimes fund-raising committee thanks all who donated chili and snacks or bought lunch at this week's chili cookoff.

The lunch raised \$317 to help babies be healthy.

Here are the contest winners, as judged by Jeanne Baldwin, executive director of the Office of Program Support; Deputy Secretary Tim Jackson; and Cathy Mobley, deputy commissioner of the Department for Community Based Services:

- Spiciest -- Donna Britton
- Thickest -- Michele Lilly (accepting on behalf of her mother, the chef,)
- Best Overall -- Carla Graham

Special thanks go to the judges for their time and iron stomachs!

Walk is April 11

The March of Dimes State Walk for Kentucky employees is at noon on Friday, April 11. Office coordinators have pledge sheets for those who'd like to participate.

Staff who raise \$20 will get a Cabinet March of Dimes shirt. Walkers who raise \$100 will receive a WalkAmerica T-shirt, and those who collect \$250 in pledges will earn a WalkAmerica

sweatshirt. There are bigger incentives for raising more funds.

If you can't walk, please consider sponsoring someone who will.

Book sale

Looking for some good spring break reading? Stop by the CHR lobby March 26 and 27 to pick your selections at the book sale.

CFC T-shirts

Committee members are selling Cabinet T-shirts. The white, short-sleeved, 100 percent cotton tees are \$10 for sizes S,M,L and XL; \$11 for XXL; and \$12 for XXXL.

Check in with Lilly at 564-3140, ext. 4004, if you'd like to order a shirt. Or ask one of the other team members: Kim Barnett, Erica Caton, Bonnie Cox, Dianne Darnell, Andrea Harrod, Regina Hutcherson, Donna Long, Anya Weber, Anitra Williams and Paula Yochum.

Yard sale items needed

Don't forget to bring in your unwanted housewares for the March of Dimes yard sale April 2 and 3. If you have items to donate, call or e-mail Lilly.

QCC offering team buttons during March Madness



By Anya Armes Weber, CFC Communications

Are you wild about the University of Kentucky Wildcats?

Do you think an NCAA championship is in the "Cards" for the University of Louisville?

Show your team spirit with a button and support Quality Central Connections.

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QCC members are offering UK and U of L buttons for a \$1 donation to the group.

QCC even offers a Hilltopper button for fans of the third Kentucky team in the men's tournament, Western Kentucky University. WKU's women's team also made the NCAA tournament field.

Look for QCC and the buttons in the CHR lobby on Friday, March 21. Or ask a committee member how you can order a button.

QCC strengthens employee communication through activities, the employee appreciation picnic and Secretary Viola Miller's quarterly "CFC Connections" sessions.

Don't forget to help QCC and display which team you're mad about this March!

Gov. Patton signs bill, creates Amber Alert system

Gov. Paul Patton has signed House Bill 36, which allows the Kentucky State Police to implement an Amber Alert system to broadcast information relating to abductions of children.

Governor Patton said the bill, sponsored by Rep. Carolyn Belcher, D -Owingsville, is the type of measure his administration has supported throughout his terms.

"Protecting our children and vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect and ensuring their well-being has been a priority of this administration," he said.

At the end of 2002, the Governor's Office of Child Abuse and Domestic Violence Services and First Lady Judi Patton worked several months to host training programs for law enforcement professionals, emergency services personnel and local broadcasters on a protocol for Kentucky's version of the Amber Alert System. For more information on these training sessions: http://firstlady.state.ky.us/press/pressreleases2002.htm